

AN UNDEVELOPED CENTRAL AMERICAN GOLD MINE.

No Longer a Haven of Refuge for Fleeing Defaulters — Honduras Now Has Extradition Treaty With United States — One Man, an American, Is Immune. Gen. Lee Christmas and the Old Louisiana Lottery Mansion. Spanish Honduras Filled With Men to Whom Big Adventures Are as the Little Things of Every-Day Life. Economic Conditions. Trade Opportunities. Country Is Rich in Minerals — Railroad Graft — Magnificent Waterways. The Town of Puerto Cortez and Its Splendid Harbor — Prohibition Among the Bay Islanders — The President of Honduras.

BY WINGROVE BATHON.

Special Correspondent. PUERTO CORTEZ, Spanish Honduras.

THE first Anglo-Saxon white man on whom I later eyes as our ship docked at Puerto Cortez was the man alluded to in the first paragraph of this article—the Burke who was known to our fathers and grandfathers as being a fugitive from justice in the United States, and who, when the Spanish Honduran authorities signed an extradition treaty with the United States, was expressly stipulated by them as being exempted from its provisions. He, too, comes down to meet the ships from home at the dock, formally saluting the passengers, and being highly and respectfully regarded throughout the length and breadth of this land. A notable figure, patrician and dignified, with a white beard and hair, he sits himself on a hand car upon which has been placed a number of aeroplanes the Guatemalan government had asked him to purchase. Just before leaving the United States the central American rumor factory—of which no human being ever knew the headquarters, but which ways has some very dull axe to grind—was reporting Gen. Christmas' presence and alleged presence in the Mexican-Guatemalan border. Well, he wasn't there and he isn't there. He is in Puerto Cortez and on ship days to get the latest news from home, and to be of service to visitors all day long in the broiling sun.

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THE PLAZA AT TEGUCIGALPA, THE CAPITAL OF SPANISH HONDURAS.

from justice to Spanish Honduras when there was no extradition treaty between this country and the United States. But no faithful record of present-day conditions in Spanish Honduras can be written without some of the romantic details in regard to them, for they are bound up in its history and in its present day life. The first Anglo-Saxon white man on whom I later eyes as our ship docked at Puerto Cortez was the man alluded to in the first paragraph of this article—the Burke who was known to our fathers and grandfathers as being a fugitive from justice in the United States, and who, when the Spanish Honduran authorities signed an extradition treaty with the United States, was expressly stipulated by them as being exempted from its provisions. He, too, comes down to meet the ships from home at the dock, formally saluting the passengers, and being highly and respectfully regarded throughout the length and breadth of this land. A notable figure, patrician and dignified, with a white beard and hair, he sits himself on a hand car upon which has been placed a number of aeroplanes the Guatemalan government had asked him to purchase. Just before leaving the United States the central American rumor factory—of which no human being ever knew the headquarters, but which ways has some very dull axe to grind—was reporting Gen. Christmas' presence and alleged presence in the Mexican-Guatemalan border. Well, he wasn't there and he isn't there. He is in Puerto Cortez and on ship days to get the latest news from home, and to be of service to visitors all day long in the broiling sun.



A PLANTATION CHURCH ON THE HONDURAS BORDER WITH INDIAN PUPILS AND GROWN-UPS.

republic is made more easy every Honduran with whom I talked declares that this country will be found to be an undeveloped gold mine. The whole country is rich in minerals, and but one or two companies have so far ventured to develop it. Because of the lack of communication except by mule pack and pack train this country is the least developed of all the Central American republics. Within the last few years the government has improved the road from San Lorenzo to Tegucigalpa, the capital, a distance of 300 miles. Over this an automobile transportation company is now operating machines, two trips a week. This carries mail for the government and passengers, and there are several large trucks to carry freight. Many Hondurans believe that the automobile truck line will prove to be the future transportation system of this mountainous country rather than the railroad.



DR. FRANCISCO BERTRAND, PRESIDENT OF SPANISH HONDURAS.

"Hush, you fool! That is the wife of the Cuban centavos, Guatemalan dos reales, British Honduran five cent pieces and American 25 gold pieces. The British cruiser Sidney is stationed in these waters, and every once in a while, when there is shore liberty, there is a flood of the good old British sovereign for Puerto Cortez is an old and famous port, the world over with deep water beside a dock actually less than twenty-five feet from the shore, and before the war ships came here, bringing strangers from many lands. But one of the most interesting things about this shack-like city, which is a breath of fire or a wave of pestilence would wipe away again in a moment, as the sword of the conqueror has done so often in the past, is the old mansion in which the Louisiana lottery sheltered Gen. Early and Gen. Beauregard when these leaders of the Confederacy lent their names to the scheme after it was thrown out of the United States. As the guest of Gen. Lee Christmas the writer was entertained here, unable to find the traces of elegance of which Mr. Richard Harding Davis wrote when he visited the place years ago. The big wheels he saw in the great parlors, ready to grind out numbers which should spell fortune for millions of fools in the United States, are now merely and rusty in a shed back of the mansion, and beside them, in a great chest, losing its hinges and open to the weather, are millions of the little numbered paper slips which were used in the lottery, each wrapped in a little black paper tube, molding into decay. The great old house retains traces of its former beauty, in a grove of coconuts, bananas, palms, palmettoes and yuccas. It has been used of late years as a hotel, but it is now Gen. Christmas' home, and it is the only place that is anything but a shanty in the tropical, broiling and sizzling town. In the harbor of Puerto Cortez are



A BUSINESS STREET IN SAN PEDRO.

found some of the most beautiful boats in the world, built by the natives of the bay islands, nearby, the descendants of the British buccaners of the Caribbean. Swift-winged and graceful, on long flowing lines, they bring their smuggled goods in and out of Puerto Cortez, hunting for champagne on the Central American coast, which New Orleans dealers gladly pay \$60 a dozen for, plus the duty which Uncle Sam exacts (and sees that he gets, unlike some venal Central American officials). This search of the Caribbean and Central America for champagne and other valuable wines is another outgrowth of the war in Europe, and if the Bay Islanders can smuggle it in "Mr. President, we do not allow liquor, but rather their right, through hundreds of years of custom. But drink themselves they will not, nor will they permit one drop of liquor in their islands. Not long ago the President of Honduras resolved to pay these islanders a visit of compliment. After a dusty hot day, he suggested that he could relish a real drink. He was taken aside and politely told: "My fear," the president grimly responded, "is that they will not be nearly as much shocked as I am." These are the outward and visible signs of Spanish Honduras today. Every one admits that the country has made great progress during the temporary presidency of Dr. Alberto Membrillo, who is to return to Washington as minister in May or the first part of June. He has greatly endeared himself to the people by not allowing himself to



THE OLD LOUISIANA LOTTERY HOUSE AT PUERTO CORTEZ, SPANISH HONDURAS, AS IT LOOKS TODAY.

made the tool of ambitious politicians, for it was predicted, in Central American style of former days, that when he assumed the presidency during the temporary absence of Dr. Bertrand he would decide not to let go when the time came to yield the office back to Bertrand. The politicians tried to swell his head, but he laughed at them. Here are his latest words on the political and economic situation of the country: "To establish a national government it is important that the public service be confined to persons who are honest, competent and of good will, whatever may be the party with which they are affiliated. The true Honduran loves progress and does not cling blindly to the past. During my administration I could not do better than to conserve all the good my predecessors realized, and to begin one other work that is without prejudice to the public service. I started the construction of a highway to Portorillo, the first station on the National Railroad of Honduras. Thus the time may come when we may have automobiles from the Atlantic to the Pacific. "Moreover, by this work we add to the value of the lands of the valley of Comayagua and to that of other land the products of which will be sold in the towns of the north coast that are now supplied by importations from the United States. When Europe shall turn to the peace so desired by all we can then count with some assurance on that to offer to creditors, and to begin one other work that is without prejudice to the public service. These truly national works are not beyond our resources. For them we have the perseverance, and, above all, unity. That is the hope we expect and hope from our compatriots."

SHE TELLS OF THE WESTERN WOMAN'S IDEALS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

She speaks the nature of its service. It was characteristic of Mrs. Guernsey that when her friends in the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, recognizing her ability as a leader and mentioning her name as a candidate for nomination as president, she declined the subject for a time, then gave direct consent to stand as a candidate. If she wins the election it will be the first time that a true western woman has led the force of a hundred thousand Daughters, who are accomplishing a great work in the preservation of the historic memorials of this country. Mrs. Guernsey is a true American, coming from pioneer stock of the best type. Her maternal great-grandfather, Anthony Jacob Henkel, came from Germany in 1717 to help in founding the Lutheran Church in America, and her paternal great-grandfather was Rev. John Mitchell, who came from England in 1763 and preached the Gospel in this country for forty years. Since then many of her forebears have been prominent in evangelistic work in America. Her own father, the late Rev. Daniel P. Mitchell, went west during the civil war to organize the Methodist Church in what is now described as "that something mass known as Bleeding Kansas." There was not a Methodist church in the state he did not help to start. A family of girls and boys grew up in a happy household under the best auspices for character development, each one taking hold of assigned or chosen work with characteristic ability and energy. A story, Mrs. Guernsey, the late Mrs. J. M. Kellogg, became the first woman lawyer in the state of Kansas, and the entire west, and when her husband was attorney general for the state his wife became assistant attorney general. Their son, Vernon Kellogg, member of the faculty of Leland Stanford University, and a collaborator with President David Starr Jordan in authoritative works on evolution, evinced the

family aptitude for public service and has, but lately returned from Europe, where he did notable work for the relief of the Belgians, taking the place of Mr. Hoover when the latter was in the service. Mrs. Guernsey's brother is Rev. Charles B. Mitchell, pastor of St. James' Church, the largest Methodist congregation in Chicago, while another sister took up art as her life profession and is now in the Kansas State Normal School. Mrs. Guernsey at sixteen entered the field as breadwinner by teaching school and becoming in time principal of the High School of Independence. The cause of equal suffrage found sturdy support in the Mitchell family, and one of their warmest early friends was Susan B. Anthony, who made her home near them in Leavenworth, and whose progressive views were shared in by old and young in this active party. Mrs. Guernsey's early marriage and an ambitious and energetic young bank clerk resulted in her transferring her active part in the instruction of youth, although never her interest, into philanthropic channels expressed through civil and state work. This interest was evinced by her service of several years as chairman of the board of education of her home town. Characteristically a woman of the west, she interested herself in her husband's profession—became, in fact, his business companion and partner—and has contributed her full share to the success which came early and rapidly through good business insight and enterprise, and has placed the Guernseys among the wealthy citizens of their state. Asked recently what were among the

radical differences between the eastern and the western woman's ideals of public service, Mrs. Guernsey said: "The eastern and the western women are radically unlike in their point of view, and make no comparisons, but I will tell you what I have observed among the marked characteristics of the western woman. She is essentially a woman of breadth. "In Kansas and in other western states where we have suffrage the man, as a matter of course, discusses politics with his wife exactly as though she were a man. This gives her a masculine grasp of political situations, and politics are as frequently a subject of women's conversations with us as our domestic problems. "The western man, with his wife on an equal plane in politics with himself, naturally talks of his business with her, and she as naturally acquires his viewpoint in business matters, so that very frequently they are in reality business partners in all that name. The western woman prides herself on being of all assistance possible to her husband, and she has a clear insight into his affairs as he himself holds. "My husband and I are partners in business, and from this beginning and other public service endeavors, I help him in his affairs and he helps me. We have grown up together with that ideal, and have been trained to take a big, broad outlook on life and its affairs. Our young grandchildren are consequently being trained along the same lines, and I regard them as very good types of western children. "I think that the western woman's broad view is largely influenced by her surroundings. One cannot be born and look out all her life over the boundless prairies and take a small view of anything. As the actual horizon is spread wide before the physical eye, so the mental dweller sees things in their greatest aspect. I believe that in all

the relations of life this physical aspect of her country tells upon the mental, and that the woman's view of events great and small. She is as big and broad in her viewpoint as her wide-rolling prairies have taught her to be. "As Kansas state regent of the D. A. R. for nine years, Mrs. Guernsey has been a woman of eminent success. They look to her for help and guidance in important matters, and it is given generously and efficiently. On the national board of management she recently typified mind and manner when, as chairman of tellers, she found herself noting the brought forth a vortex of confusion. Standing up and using the gavel effectively, she neither plead nor begged for order, but, with quiet and firm authority, she demanded it, so that the hysterical body of women was forced immediately to see and accede to the just demand. Mrs. Guernsey has taken a strong and active part in making the great Santa Fe trail, which is one of the greatest pieces of work in the history of the D. A. R., since its completion. Kansas was the first state to mark the old trail which brought the east and the west together, and from this beginning grew the great idea of the national ocean-to-ocean highway. Nearly 500 miles of the old Santa Fe trail ran through Kansas, and it is marked with hundreds of bowlders, shafts and tablets, which not only point the way of the trail, but also serve as memorials to thousands of sturdy pioneers who lost their lives when the way was forged across prairie and desert sand. This notable work of the Kansas Daughters, begun and carried well on under a former state regent, has been brought to successful conclusion under the guidance of Mrs. Guernsey, and she is proud of her connection with it. Early realizing that in union there is strength, Mrs. Guernsey became one of the pioneer clubwomen of her state and formed clubs for state and civic work long before clubs were federated in Kansas. She is a member of the

National Council of Women, of the woman's section of the Army and Navy League, National Society of the Patriotic Women of America, vice president of the National Star Spangled Banner Association and a member of the Social Science Club of Kansas. She is a strong advocate of good citizenship for the people, and such is the confidence placed in her ability in that direction that she has been chosen to select the books for the public library of her home town. She has a keen sense of values in literature and art, and uses it for the benefit of her fellow citizens. Regarded as one of the best-governed women of her state, and maintaining this record when she comes east to attend the conventions of the various organizations of which she is officer or member, Mrs. Guernsey takes particular pride in the fact that all her costumes are designed and made in the west. While she is a fine business woman and takes ample time for the cultivation of the intellectual and esthetic side of her life, she is also a notably good housekeeper, ordering her domestic affairs upon the most modern and progressive plan, so that her household machinery runs upon wheels so well oiled that they are rarely to be heard. The Guernsey home is the handsomest in Kansas, and was planned and the work of construction supervised by its mistress. This stately stone pile, with its pillared verandas and its artistically planned grounds, constitutes one of the show places of the state, and gives a concrete example of what a clever western woman regards as an ideal American home. Those that do best in the small garden, go to some other dealer and ask his advice about the sorts of roses to set out in your particular locality. You might also write to the state agricultural department and ask its advice about roses growing in your region. Remember that roses need plenty of room. They do not thrive when they are mixed in with other plants or shrubs. They must be planted in beds or borders, with plenty of room between them. The soil must be rich, and must be kept loosely aerated. Glorious bulbs may be planted among roses without injuring them, and so many pansies, but these are the only things safely planted in the rose bed. Most of the big florists or flower seed and plant concerns have lists of roses suitable to various sorts of gardens. There are the lovely climbing roses, which should find a place wherever there are arbores or trellises on which they can be trained. The trellises can be placed against the side of the house or against a stone wall at comparatively small expense. These roses come in pink, white and red.

SHE TELLS OF THE WESTERN WOMAN'S IDEALS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Mrs. George Thacher Guernsey of Kansas Tells of the Western Woman's Ideals of Public Service — She Has Done Big Work in Daughters of the American Revolution — Has Taken Active Part in Marking the Old Santa Fe Trail in Partnership With Her Husband.

FROM the western portion of this country come its most valuable ores, and out of the west have stridden some of the strongest men of the land—men with broad, fearless, virile ideas, typical of the expansive territory wherein they have been reared. The women of the west have brought to their sisters in other parts of the Union the same big viewpoint as its men. A representative western woman is Mrs. George Thacher Guernsey of Kansas, whose home town, Independence,

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